The Digital Library Landscape Looking for Trends

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Primary Information



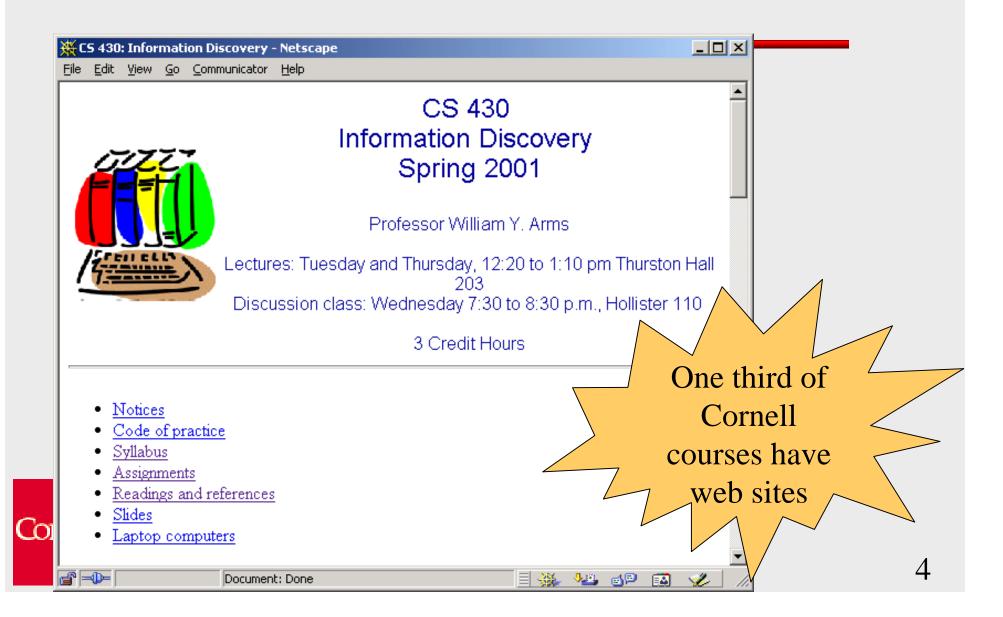
Underlying Trends

Every year sees an increase in the proportion of important information that is available with open access.

Every year sees an increase in the proportion of important information that is available online.



Course Web Sites



MIT News

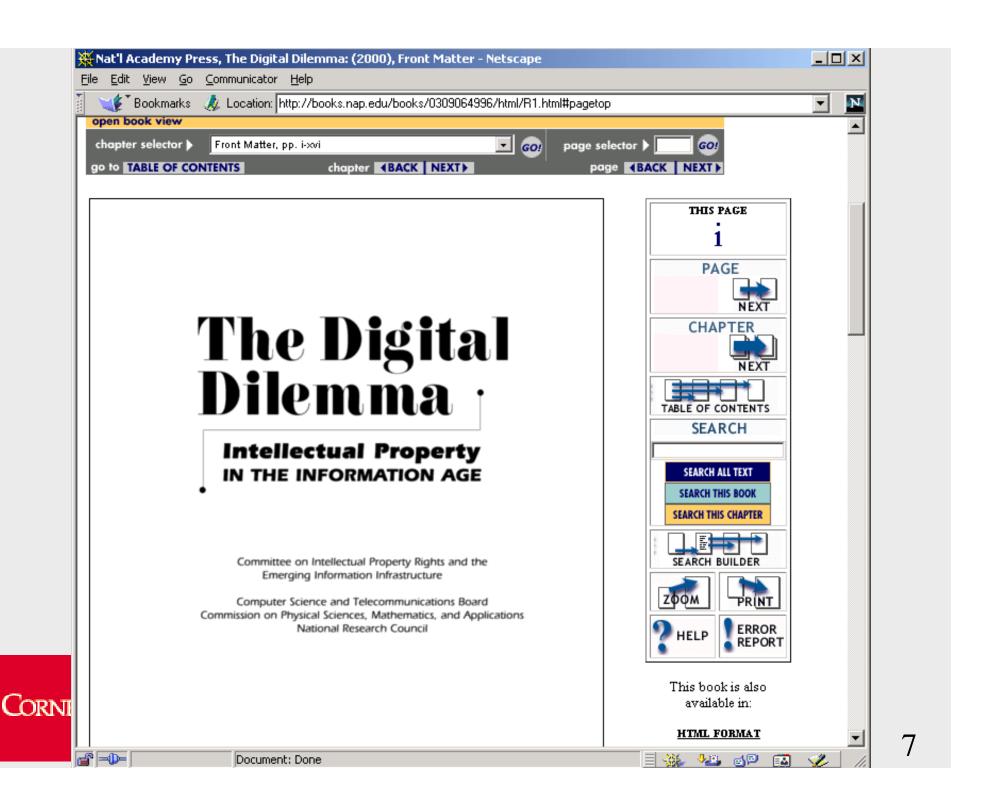
MIT to make nearly all course materials available free on the World Wide Web

Unprecedented step challenges 'privatization of knowledge'

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. -- MIT President Charles M. Vest has announced that the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will make the materials for nearly all its courses freely available on the Internet over the next ten years. He made the announcement about the new program, known as MIT OpenCourseWare (MITOCW), at a press conference at MIT on Wednesday, April 4th.









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EDITORIAL

Free and Fee: Future Information Discovery and Access

by Peter Hirtle

To the Editor: Letters

BOOK REVIEW

The Intellectual Foundation of Information Organization

Elaine Svenonius. MIT Press, 2000 Reviewed by: Caroline R. Arms, Library of Congress

"...This book about cataloging certainly deserves to be read outside the community whose principles and traditions it describes and illuminates."





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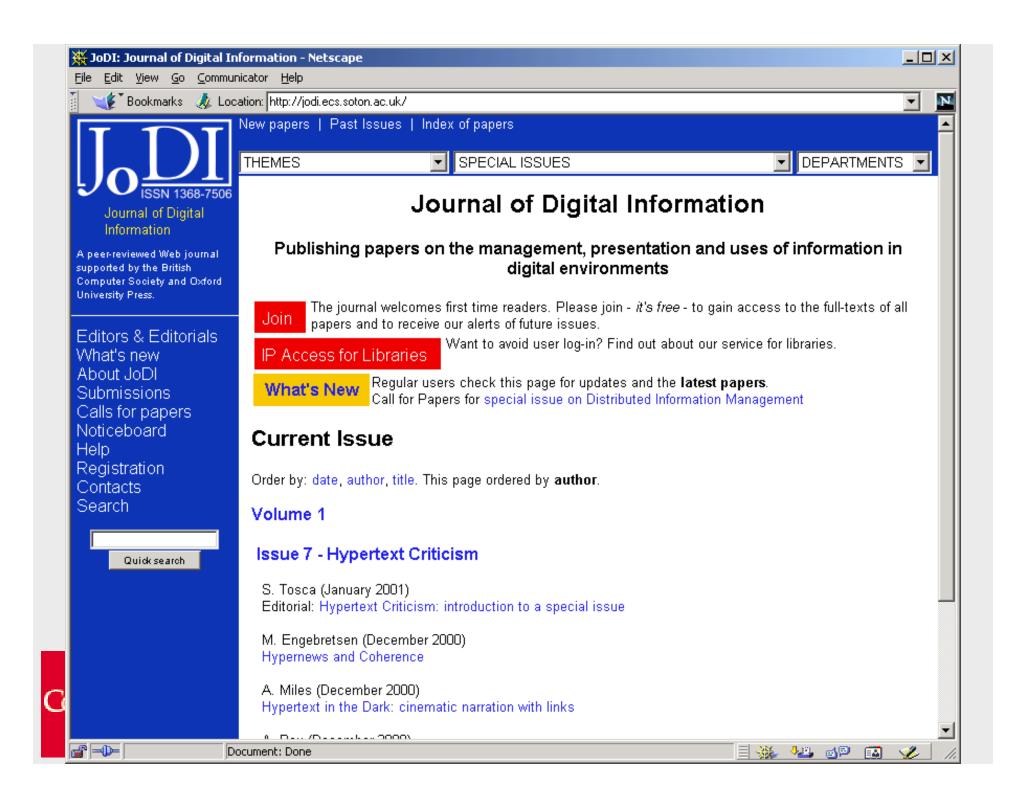


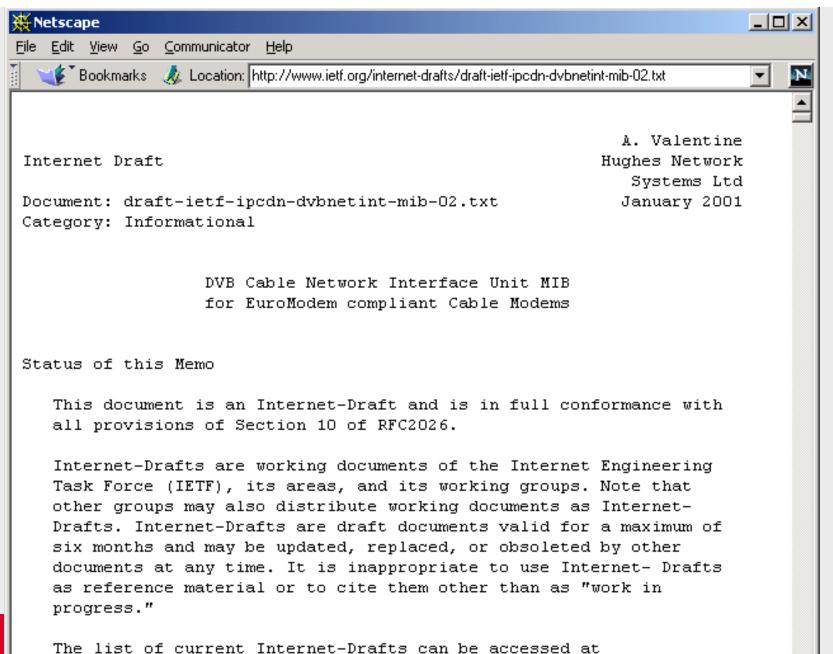














http://www.ietf.org/ietf/lid-abstracts.txt

Public Library of Science

Open Letter

We support the establishment of an online public library that would provide the full contents of the published record of research and scholarly discourse in medicine and the life sciences in a freely accessible, fully searchable, interlinked form. Establishment of this public library would vastly increase the accessibility and utility of the scientific literature, enhance scientific productivity, and catalyze integration of the disparate communities of knowledge and ideas in biomedical sciences.



Secondary Information

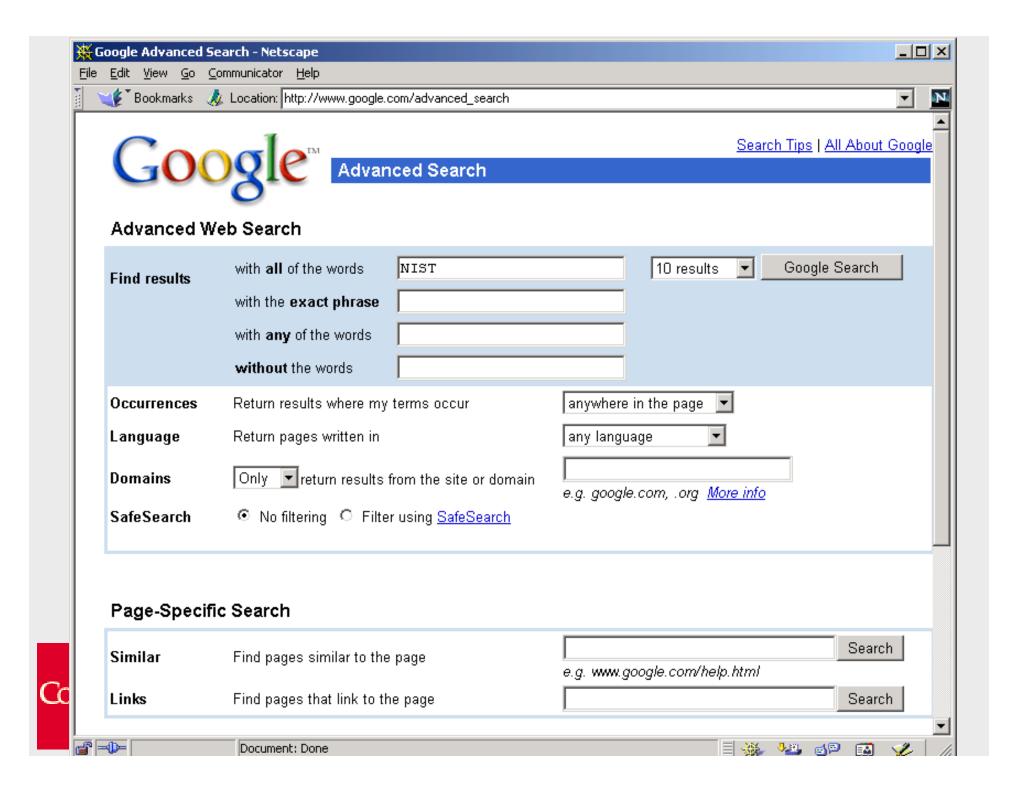


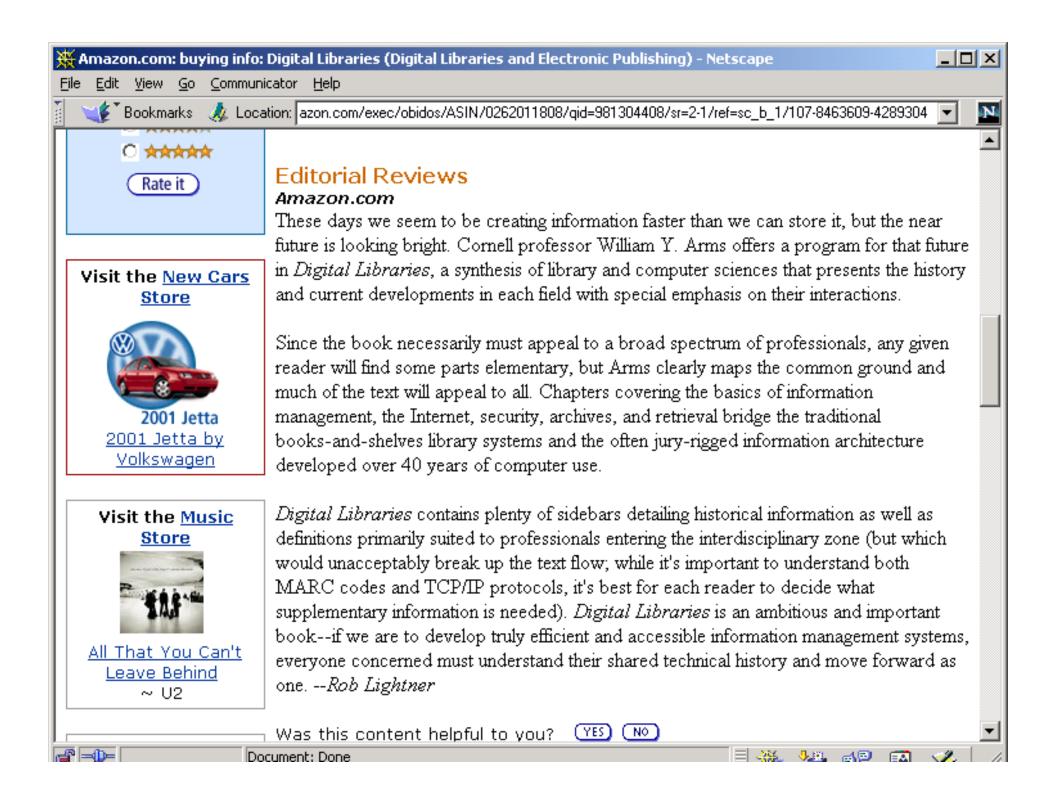
Information Discovery

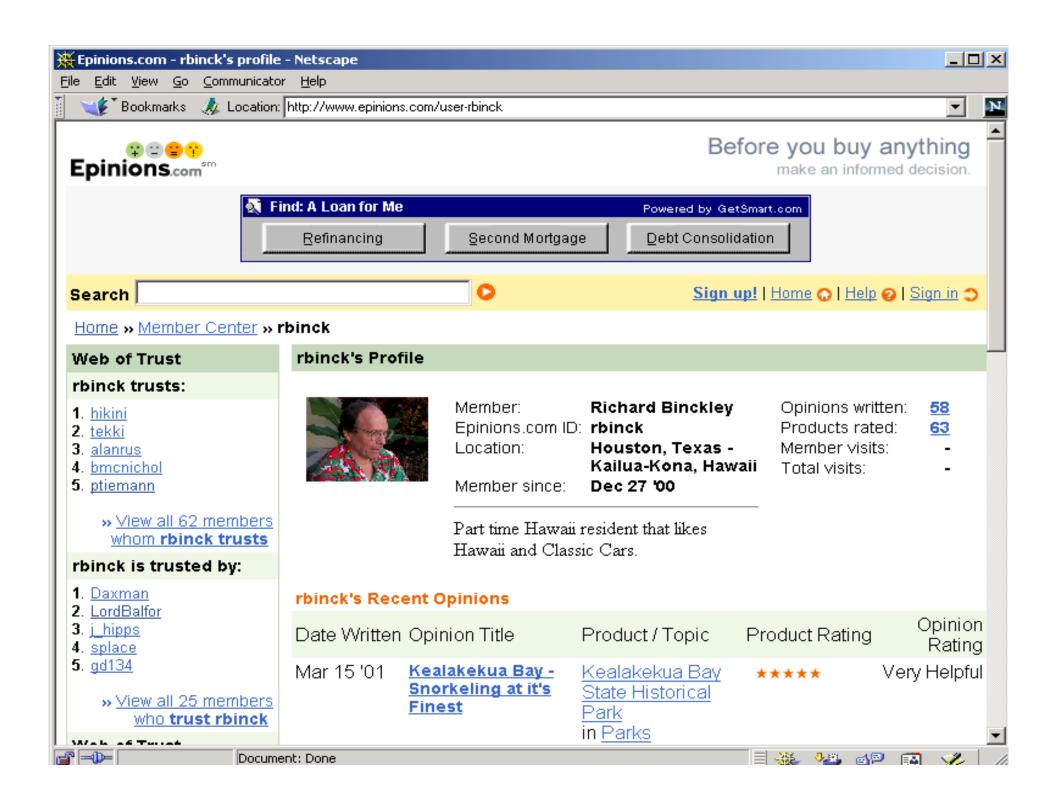
"I used to be a heavy user of Inspec. Now I use Google instead."

Why are web search services the most widely used information discovery tools in universities today?









Before You Ask ...

- The open access information is sometimes a poor substitute
- Much good information is not available with open access



Economics



The Dilemma

It is hard to compete with a free good.

Library budgets and publishers' revenues are vulnerable.

Yet money is needed to pay for professional staff.



Four Economic Models

Example: Broadcast Television

Open Access

Advertising network television

External funding public broadcasting

Restricted Access

Subscription cable

Pay-by-use pay-per-view



Examples

Old	New
Books in Print (subscription)	Amazon.com (advertising)
Medline (pay-by-use)	Grateful Med (external)
Journal (subscription)	ePrint archives (external)
Westlaw (pay-by-use)	Legal Information Institute (external)
Inspec (subscription)	Google (advertising)

A False Assumption

Incorrect thinking

The only incentive for creating information is to make money -- royalties to authors and profits for publishers

Correct thinking

Many creators do not require revenue

- Marketing and promotion
- Government information
- Academic research



They want their materials to be used

Scholarly Information

The dominant force is **author pressure**, which emphasizes **open access** rather than closed access.

- 1. A mixture of economic models will coexist.
- 2. Eventually, we will have open access to most scientific, government and professional information.
- 3. The most common economic model will be that information is published by the producing organization.



The Cost of Libraries and Publishing

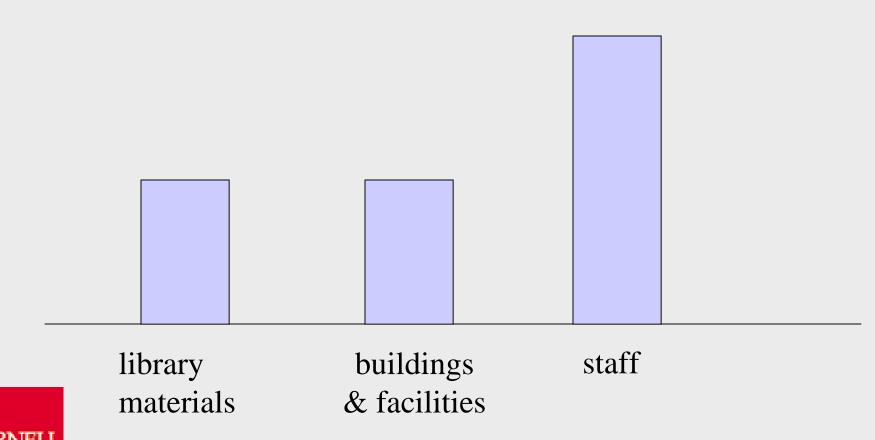
The costs of libraries and publishing are dominated by personnel.

Major reductions in unit costs require different use of personnel.

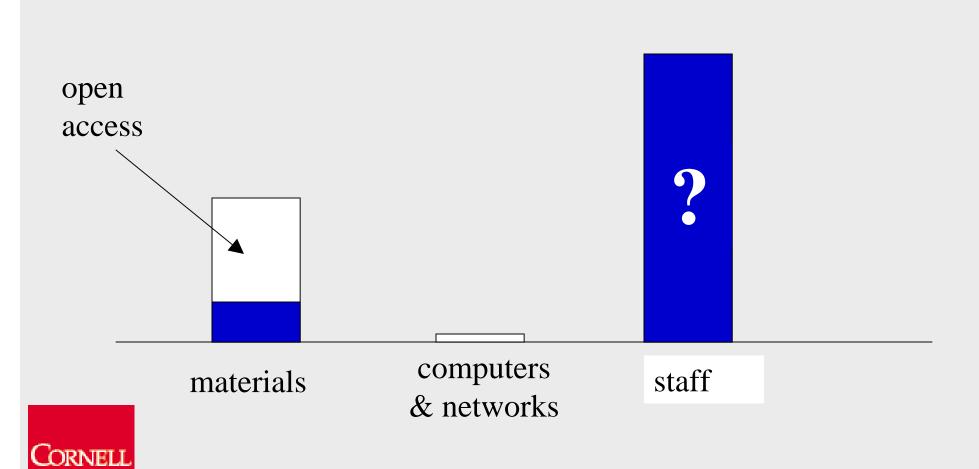
By creative use of technology, can we build libraries that are of high quality at much lower costs?



Research Libraries are Expensive



The Potential of Digital Libraries



Dramatic Reductions in Cost

Thought experiment: How would you reduce the cost of scientific, legal, medical and government information to one fifth?

The only possible answer: Automate labor intensive tasks.

Moore's Law is the only hope.



Brute Force Computing

Few people really understand Moore's Law

- -- Computing power doubles every 18 months
- -- Increases 100 times in 10 years
- -- Increases 10,000 times in 20 years

Simple algorithms + immense computing power may outperform human intelligence.



Automated Digital Libraries: Examples

Automatic indexing	Lycos, Infoseek, Altavista, Google,
Query matching	Vector methods (Salton)
Ranking importance	Google (Page and Brin)
Archiving	Internet Archive (Kahle)
Collection development	ResearchIndex (Lawrence)
Metadata extraction	Informedia (Wactlar)

Example: Catalogs and Indexes

Catalog, index and abstracting records are very expensive when created by skilled professionals, but ...

For information discovery, particularly with untrained users:

automated indexing of full text

is at least as effective as

manually produced indexes and catalogs

[Demonstrated repeatedly in experiments going back to the original Cranfield experiments.]



The National Science Library (NSDL)

Can we build a <u>very low cost</u> national science library -- initially for education -- using the methods of automated digital libraries?





One of Six Core Integration Demonstration Projects for the NSDL







How Big might the NSDL be?

The NSDL aims to be comprehensive -- all branches of science, all levels of education, very broadly defined.

Five year targets:

1,000,000	different users
10,000,000	digital objects
100,000	independent sites

Requires: low-cost, scalable, technology automated collection building and maintenance



The Spectrum of Interoperability: Federation

Standardization on sophisticated protocols, formats, metadata, authentication, etc.

Examples:

Library catalogs with MARC and Z 39.50
DLESE (NSDL)
smete.org (NSDL)

- High-quality interoperability of services
- High cost of entry to participating sites

Smallish numbers of tightly integrated partners



Has difficulty scaling

The Spectrum of Interoperability: Metadata Harvesting

Agreements on simple protocol and metadata standard(s)

Example:

Metadata harvesting protocol of the Open Archives Initiative (MHP)

- Moderate-quality services
- Low cost of entry to participating sites

Moderately large numbers of loosely collaborating sites

Promising but still an emerging approach



The Spectrum of Interoperability: Gathering

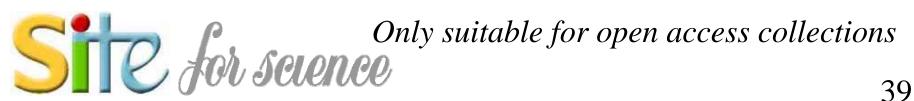
Robots gather collections automatically with no participation from individual sites

Examples:

Web search services (e.g., Google)
CiteSeer (a.k.a. ResearchIndex)

- Restricted but useful services
- Zero cost of entry to gathered sites

Very large numbers of independent sites



Federal Agencies

How can the federal agencies help?



As a Supplier of Information

Primary information

- Online, preferably with open access
- Support the interoperability spectrum, (e.g., the Metadata Harvesting Protocol of the Open Archives Initiative)

Secondary information

• Online, preferably with open access



The Open Access Web

Before the web

• Few people had access to scientific, medical, government and legal information

With the web

- Much high quality information is available with open access
- Low cost services can organize this information and provide open access to it



"Please can I use the web? I don't do libraries." Anonymous Cornell student, circa 1996.

Some Light Reading

William Y. Arms, "Automated digital libraries." *D-Lib Magazine*, July/August 2000.

http://www.dlib.org/dlib/july20/07contents.html

William Y. Arms, "Economic models for open-access publishing." *iMP*, March 2000.

http://www.cisp.org/imp/march_2000/03_00arms.htm

